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NON-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America was held Wednesday afternoon June 22 at 2.30 in the Annex parlor. The meeting was an interesting and valuable contribution to the subject of the use of reproducing processes in bibliographical work. The chair was taken by Dr. C. L. Nichols.

The President's Address, by George Watson Cole, gave a brief review of the work of the society and the reason for the importance of the general subject of the meeting. The paper by Dr. Lodewyk Bendikson, *THE PHOTOSTAT—A PHOTOGRAPHIC COPYING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS*, gave a careful account of the technic of the apparatus, together with some illustrations of its use.

THE PHOTOSTAT IN BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AND RESEARCH WORK—A SYMPOSIUM, collected by George Watson Cole, summarized the work and results in different institutions. Among these were Harvard, Boston Public, Massachusetts Secretary of State where the photostat is used for copying many legal papers, Connecticut State, Yale, Columbia where considerable use has been made in copying Chinese books, Engineering Societies Library, New York State Department of Education, New York Public Library, from which Mr. Wilberforce Eames reported in detail on large enterprises and on costs, New York Historical Society, Cornell, Princeton, University of Minnesota, Library of Congress, University of Michigan, Hispanic Society.

THE PHOTOSTAT AS A MEANS OF DISTRIBUTING COPIES OF UNIQUE OR VERY RARE WORKS, by Dr. Worthington Chauncey Ford, went into detail especially from the experience of the Massachusetts Historical Society on some of the subjects referred to in the symposium. The first division was of newspapers, with especial reference to the *Boston News Letter* and *Georgia Gazette*, 95,000 papers of the former having been sent, and 1,480 of the latter; the second to

broadsides of which over 300 reproductions have been distributed among 15 libraries; the third to the Americana series, of which 44 rare volumes have been reproduced and distributed to 10 selected libraries.

THE PHOTOSTAT AND THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, by Chester March Cate, referred especially to the detection of bibliographical difference in rarities by means of reproductions of copies in widely separate parts of the world.

Comment followed. Dr. Steiner referred to the possibility of identifying documents owing to marginal notes or marks being reproduced from certain copies. He also spoke of the impossibility of reproducing mended copies where the text has been covered with silk. With reference to the acceptance in court of photostat copies where photographs are not accepted, Mr. Winship and others spoke of the possibility of altering or faking photostat copies. With regard to a question of Mr. Lydenberg's as to permanency of reproduced copies, Mr. Meyer said that naturally paper chemically treated would not have the life of other paper, but that so far the results had not proved unsatisfactory. A photostat copy of a card bibliography was exhibited by representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Winship brought up the proposition that large libraries could not afford to subscribe to all the reproduction projects proposed, partly from expense, especially since the cost is not appreciably lowered by number of copies, and partly from the impossibility of finding room on the shelves for all such issues. Since negatives must always be made, he trusted that eventually a central clearing house could be established where negatives could be kept, and that upon demand by scholars and investigators, a library could borrow negatives or secure positives.

The question came up whether reproduced items were cataloged the same as

originals. The Department of Agriculture spoke of its practice of supplying copy to the Library of Congress for cards for all such reproductions, and in such copy annotations are made as to any additions or supplements.

Mention was made of work on a new kind of paper, much quicker and cheaper, and not needing chemical treatment for development.

The papers were referred to the Committee on Publications.

The Committee on Nominations, A. S. Root, Chairman, reported as follows: for President, W. W. Bishop, first Vice-President, H. H. B. Meyer, Second Vice-President, Victor H. Paltsits, Secretary, A. H. Shearer, Treasurer, F. W. Faxon, Councillor for term commencing 1921, E. C. Richardson. Upon motion, one ballot was cast for these officers.

The Treasurer reported a balance in all accounts, with provision for publication of

the 1920 and 1921 *Papers and Proceedings*. He reported that bills had not been sent out for 1921 owing to the fact that no publication had been issued in 1920 and since there were so many institutional members, their membership was largely conditioned on that fact. Bills would be sent out with the next publication. This explanation will satisfy the question of many members.

G. P. Winship for the Publication Committee reported that the publications had been held up successively by questions about one or two papers, then by the cost of printing, then by strikes, but that the material was ready and would be published probably in two or three months.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. SHEARER,
Secretary.

This Association is not affiliated with the A. L. A. but its report is printed here for the convenience of the members.

LIBRARY WORKERS ASSOCIATION

The second annual meeting of the Library Workers' Association was held at Swampscott, June 24 at 9:00 p. m. in the sun parlor of the New Ocean House, Catherine Van Dyne, a director, presiding.

Miss Van Dyne opened the meeting with a few remarks regretting the absence through illness of the President, Mary G. Peters. The Secretary, Marian C. Manley, made a report showing how the Association had lived up to its claim of being a democratic and flexibly organized one. She announced that a more detailed written report would be made to the members and copies would be furnished to those wishing them.

The discussion of library conditions and staff relations was opened by a paper on *STANDARDS IN LIBRARIES* by Emma Baldwin, which brought up for consideration the possibility of working out standards for the various library processes, thus affording a real basis for criticism or approval, and also the adaptation of satisfactory

schedules of salaries, such as those for teachers, where the library was new or in process of reorganization.

Miss Alexander talked on the response given by assistants where they were allowed to go through one developing experience after another rather than kept continually in the same limited field of work.

Mr. Cannon then spoke of the necessity of securing some permanence among junior assistants by affording them assurance that they will be able to advance to more interesting work and better salaries in proportion to their capacity and length of service. It should be possible by means of experience gained in the library and by remedying defects in education and in technical training, either in or outside of library hours, for the junior assistant to advance within certain limits. He spoke of Dr. Williamson's pointing out in his investigation of standardization the two general classes of work, professional and clerical, and the various grades in each,